FURTHER NOTES ON FLINDERS ISLAND BIRDS

AN APPENDIX TO THE FAUNA LIST

bу

R. H. GREEN

Oueen Victoria Museum, Launceston

Manuscript received 28/4/1971

Published 24/5/1971

ABSTRACT

Since the publication in June 1969 of The Birds of Flinders Island (Green 1969) further material received by the Queen Victoria Museum has established the occurrence of ten additional bird species and two fish species from the area.

BIRDS

During the winters of 1969 and 1970, sea bird mortality in Bass Strait appeared to be heavier than usual, possibly due to a dark bituminous material found adhering to the feathers of some beachwashed birds. Similar mortality was detected during the same period on the west coast of King Island in western Bass Strait (Templeton 1970).

As a result of patrols by G. D. F. Smith, J. Whinray and D. M. Rhodes, the following birds have been salvaged and forwarded to the Queen Victoria Museum where they have been registered into the collections. Those with a bracketed asterisk (*) are species not previously collected from Flinders Island. "N" is added where the species is recorded for the first time in this locality.

- 65. White-faced Storm-petrel Pelagodroma marina. Two Whitemark 29 February 1971.
- Fluttering Shearwater Puffinus gavia (*)N. One Long Point 18 September 1969; one Whitemark April 1970.
- 70. Sooty Shearwater Puffinus griseus (*)N. One Whitemark January 1971.
- 74. Silver-grey Petrel Fulmaris glacialoides (*)N. One Locotta 25 October 1970.
- 79. Giant Petrel Macronectes giganteus (*). One Locotta 3 July 1969. This bird had been banded as a nestling on Signy Island, South Orkney, Antarctica in March 1969.
- 80. Cape Petrel Daption capense. One Long Point 18 September 1969; one Marshall Bay 20 July 1969.
- 82a. Medium-billed Prion Pachyptila salvini (*)N. Three Marshall Bay 20 July 1969; one Whitemark 16 July 1969; one Marshall Bay 20 July 1969; one Marshall Bay 31 July 1969; five Marshall Bay 22 July 1970; one Whitemark 3 September 1970.
- 83. Fairy Prion Pachyptila turtur. One Whitemark 16 July 1969; three Marshall Bay 20 July 1969; one Marshall Bay 10 August 1969; one Long Point 18 September 1969; one Marshall Bay 20 July 1970; five Marshall Bay 22 July 1970.
- 84. Dove Prion Pachyptila desolata (*)N. One Whitemark 17 July 1969; three Marshall Bay 31 July 1969; five Marshall Bay 22 July 1970.

Records of the Queen Victoria Museum, No. 39 Edited by W. F. Ellis, Director of the Museum



- 84a. Thin-billed Prion Pachyptila belcheri. One Marshall Bay 18 July 1969; one Marshall Bay 20 July 1969; three Marshall Bay 31 July 1969; two Marshall Bay 20 July 1970; six Marshall Bay 22 July 1970.
- 88. Black-browed Albatross Diomedea melanophris. One Long Point 18 September 1969; one Whitemark October 1970.
- 89. Yellow-nosed Albatross Diomedea chlororhyncha (*)N. One Marshall Bay 20 July 1969; one Long Point 18 September 1969.
- 90. Grey-headed Albatross Diomedea chrysostoma (*)N. One Marshall Bay 31 July 1969; one Lady Barron 25 October 1969; one Marshall Bay 22 July 1970.
- 91. White-capped Albatross Diomedea cauta (*). One Long Point 18 September 1969.
- 215. White-eyed Duck Aythya australis (*). One (register no. 1971/2/21) was shot on Brodies Lagoon on 12 March 1971 and forwarded to the Museum for identification. It was flying with Black Ducks A. superciliosa.
- 216. Blue-billed Duck Oxyura australis. D. Rhodes had two pairs under observation on lagoons on the east coast of Flinders Island during the latter half of 1970 and early 1971. At least one pair nested and was seen by Rhodes on several occasions during February and March escorting small ducklings.
- 249. Barn Owl Tyto alba (*)N. A specimen (register no. 1970/2/60) was found washed up on the beach on Chappell Island by David Milledge on 28 July 1970.
- 306. Blue-winged Parrot Neophema chrysostoma (*)N. Rhodes has seen small flocks feeding on grasslands on several occasions. In October 1968 they were living in the Lackrana area where, on 13 October, he found a dead bird (register no. 1968/2/247) which was of this species.
- 571. Forty-spotted Pardalote Pardalotus quadragintus (*)N. The presence of this bird was discovered in Smith's Gully in 1970 by Ian Abbott and David Milledge. A specimen (register no. 1970/2/89) was secured in November 1970.

FISH

I am indebted to Peter, Robert and Christopher Rhodes for the collection of fish, which are additional to those recorded previously.

Pigmy Perch Nannoperca australis. (Register no. 1970/5/25) collected from drains at Lackrana in September 1969. This is a new subspecies, described by Scott in Pap. Proc. Roy. Soc. Tasm., Vol. 105 (in press).

Minnow Brachygalaxias pusillus flindersiensis. (Register no. 1969/5/25) collected from drains at Lackrana in June 1969. This is a new subspecies (Scott 1971).

REFERENCES

GREEN, R. H. 1969. The Birds of Flinders Island. Rec. Queen Vict. Mus. 34.

- SCOTT, E. O. G. 1971. On the occurrence in Tasmania and on Flinders Island of Brachygalaxias Eigenmann, 1928 (Pisces: Galaxiidae) with descriptions of two new subspecies. Rec. Queen Vict. Mus. 37.
- TEMPLETON, M. T. 1970. Sea bird mortality on the west coast of King Island. Tas. Nat. 21: May 1970.